LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

THE SLAVERY QUESTION IN THE CHURCHES

To the Editor of The R. Y. Tribme. Sin: The Christian Church in this country is divided on the question whether American Slavery is sanc-tioned by the Word of God. The dividing line is daily becoming more and more sharply defined, separating churches, denominations, and the entire community, North and South. Each side has ably and often presented its argaments, and the ground and claims each are well known.

ach are well known.
The argument of the Slaveholder and his apologist threefold, and may be stated thus: First: The Old Testament shows that Slavery was

practiced by men eminent for holiness, Second: There was Pivine legislation regarding it.

Third It is nowhere explicitly condemned-no even in the New Testament.

This branch of the argument is pressed with great force. It is either a sin, it is said, or it is not. If it is a sin at all, it is a sin of the deepest dye, and it is not to be for one moment believed that such an offense, then commonly practiced, would escape the clearest and most emphatic condemnation by Christ and his apostles. The opponents of Slavery are called on to account for the alleged fact that it is not thus con-

Why is it-it is demanded-that there is no direct prehibition of Siavery in clear and unmistakable terms, if it be such a sin as you offirm? Does not this emission to condemn, on the part of the apostles, clearly sustain the ground that the Bible is on the side of the Slaveholder! If it be a sin, then were the aposties traitors to their master.

This is substantially the argument presented by the Pro-Slavery pulpits of the North, and the slaveholding saints at the South; and it is just possible that du weight has not been given to it. In yielding to it w may indeed be yielding more than even some boiders would desire. But what of that ! Truths never clash with one another, and we may safely follow, and it is our positive duty to follow, whithersoever

The slaveholder by this argument does not prohimself only, but the same shield is sufficient for the protection of the Polygamist. We have been in the habit—perhaps too much so—of condemning Brigham Young and the other Saints of Utah as outraging man and offending God by their "peculiar institution." This Southern argument—if ralid—shows that we have done injustice to the Mormons as well as to the slave-

bolders.

And, in fact, so far as the argument touches these two classes of saints, it is in my opinion much stronger in the support of Polygomy than of Slavery. Brigham Young can make a better Bible argument for Polygam; than any Southern men can for Slavery. But wha then? Are we to give up the argument because it is defense of polygamy? By no means, if the argument is a sound one. We have nothing to do with conse quences. Look at the argument as applied to

Polygamy was practiced by eminent saints under the old dispensation, commencing even before the flood.

Second : There was Divine legislation regarding it and numerous wise men considered it as a blessing. Third : It is nowhere in the Old Testament or

the New explicitly forbidden to the mass of the people There are, to be sure, some passages in the New Testament which, without examination, might be considered as condemnatory of the doctrine of the "Lat ter-Day Saints;" but, when closely scrutinized, it will be found that they relate to entirely different subjects, such as putting away a wife, or the law of divorce, the qualification and duty of bishops and deacons, or that the conclusion drawn from them has been only by way of inference-amethod which the argument of the c'ave holder utterly and zealously repudiates.

As the slaveholder says of his doctrine, so I say of Polygamy-that the Bible, from Genesis to Receletions contains no unmistakable, explicit prohibition of a pla rality of wices to the mass of the people.

It is no part of my design now to examine the slave-helders' argument. My design is simply to show whither it leads.

The rulers of Utah welcome the circulation of the Bible among their followers, who are permitted to read it and judge for themselves. In this they show more confidence in the truth of their doctrine than is manifested by the Southern churches in theirs. This confidence does not make the doctrine right, nor does the want of it by Southern Christians make slaveholding wrong. Both classes of patriarchs-the Mormons and the Slaveholders-defend their "peculiar institutions" from the Bible, and all that is aved by the confi dence of one and the fears of the other is that the former is the more honest of the two.

I cannot resist the conviction that our churche should revise their rules and books of discipline. They new admit to their communion the slaveholder-bu excommunicate and anothematize the polygamist. Is this exactly right? If they receive one, ough

they not receive the other? And if they cast out one, ought they not to cast out

If both are right, then let us cease to condemn either but, if both are wrong, it would be easy to show that the sin-of Polygamy, as compared to that of Slavery,

is as one little finger to his loins. Vile as we may consider polygamy to be, it is only

one of the incidents that help to make up the abomi nations of American Slavery. I think the churches ought to place the two prac-

tices side by side-either receive the Mormon Saint with the slaveholder, or cast out the slaveholding saint with the Mormon

THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.
Sin: The official letter of J. V. L. Pruyn, published in your paper a few days since, refusing a copy of the stock list of this Company to the Committee of New-York Stockholders, has excited considerable surprise. That gentleman has for a long time, had free access to those lists, from which he has been enabled to address stock holders, and obtain their proxies, to himself and Mr. Corning. By means of these, these two gentleme

Corning. By means of these, these two gentlemen have been enabled to concentrate the entire power of the management of this Corporation in themselves, thus rendering the Board of Directors dependent upon them instead of the stockholders, whose rightful and independent representatives they should be. This management, thus constituted, has for some time been carefully observed. It cannot be concented that a very general impression exists among stockholders that it has not been characterized by that fidelity and devotion to the true interests of the corporation which should mark so important a trust. Mr. Pravn is lawyer enough to understand the rule of equity applicable to a trustee who trades or speculates in the trust fund, or who in any manner uses the trust with a view to his own personal advantage or that of his friends. Will be have the goodness to illustrate the rule by pointed examples of railroad management, Such an illustration would be interesting to stockholders.

A large number of stockholders largely interested A large number of stockholders largely interested in the property of the New-York Central, regarding the present system of management of that Company as imperfect, and being desirous that its elections should be so conducted as to give the stockholders the benefit of an independent board of management, determined, through a committee of their number, to address their fellow-stockholders. With this view they requested a copy of the stock list. This very reasonable request has been refused by Mr. Pruyn, upon the ground that the report of the committee is distanted. ground that the report of the committee is distasteful to him and several of the Directors. Who the Directors are who concur with him he has not condescended to inform the public. His letter indulges in general denunciations of the report and of the motives of the Committee. He does not specifically deny a single al-legation or statement contained in it. His letter, to say the least of it, is in bad taste, and I fear in equally bad temper.

We think it would have been well had Mr. Prays rianted the request of the Committee, and relied upon his own ability to counternet the supposed poisonous influence of the report by a circular addressed by him Innuence of the report by a circular addressed by him to the stockholders. That he possesses the ability to write a good circular no one can doubt, unless the Directors have greatly overrated him in awarding to him sainty twice as large de is paid to the highest judicual effect in the State.

Stockholders. CANAL COLLECTORS IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

To the Editor of The N. V. Tribune.

Sin: Allow me to call your attention to a few fact in a direction not much investigated. I refer to the New-York Canal Tolls Collector's office. Here there are eight Collector's assistants who , ceive for their services \$2 per day; and what service do they perform? I do not ask this question expecting you to answer; but perhaps Mr. George Morton will give the desired information, when asked why he appointed a certain Ex-Conneilman on the dumping ground at \$250 per day. Sundays included, when he knew that the same individual was already appointed an Assistant-Collector at \$2 per day. Sundays included. Did he suppose one man could attend to the daties incomment upon two, or did he know the office of Assistant-Collector at \$2.0 per day. countent upon two, or did he know the office of Asistant-Collector was a singeure, and required no further attention than to receive the pay once a month?

These gentlemen get \$60 or \$62 a month each, deducting \$10 which goes to the Collector himself, and
increases his salary by \$50 a month, making \$190 instead of \$100 his stipulated salary. One section of
the Canal Regulations says the Collector shall keep a correct account of all the day's work faithfully per-formed by the assistants (and omit those not per-formed), and draw for the same together with the other salaries at the end of the month; but I have yet other salaries at the end of the month; but I have yet to learn when the Collector of Canal Tolls in this city has drawn for less than the entire month's salary for his assistants, though he draws the money under a monthly statement to which he swears before a Com-missioner of Deeds. If the Canal business can afford to keep eight sincoures at the New-York office, why, so be it; but if not, why not abolish them? Surely four thousand dollars a year is worth saving. A. S.

A WORD OF CAUTION.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Sir: According to an advertisement in The Tain-Mr. of last week, Mr. A. B. Sumner of Galesburgh, Mich., wishes to obtain information of C. R. Bowen & Bro, of Atkinson Depot, N. H. There is a great deal of rascality in the good old Granite States and Mr. Bowen and his amiable brother, in all probability, are ognizant of a small share of it, to say the least. During the past four or five years the papers have been flooded with advertisements showing that a fortune could be made in a few short months by some means best known to some person or persons in Plaistow, Atkinson, Hampstead, and other towns in New-Hampshire, and in Haverhill, Bradford, and other places in Massachusetts. Should a person be gullible enough to answer those notices, the replies that he might get would be various. Perhaps one would be a few receipts for making honey, soap, &c.; another might be a chance to sell maps, gridrons, or something as sensible; sometimes, as in the present case, a chance to sell shoulder-braces; and so on through an innumerable list of articles. But from the most of them he would get a package of lottery-tickets, with a circular stating that he could have ten percent for selling. No drawing of these lotteries ever takes place. Should the person receiving the tickets throw them into the fire, or send them back with the statement that he could not or would not sell them, it would make no difference; in a few weeks he would flooded with advertisements showing that a fortune statement that he could not or would not sell them, it would make no difference; in a few weeks he would receive a letter stating that he had not been heard from since the sending of the tickets, and that one of the packages sent had drawn a prize of money, perhaps \$5.00. As the unsophisticated fish swallows the glittering tinsel covering the barbed hook, so this batt is often gobbled down by the receiver of the above-mentioned letter. The letter states that the money can be had on receipt of the price of the package. Should the overloyed recipient of the lottery-vender's favors send the price demanded, he would wait long and anxiously for the returning mails to bring the prize. But like Sambo's dog, "when Sambo whistled he no come," and when once the money for the tickets is sent to the embodiment of rescating the "bourne" is reached whence no money ever returns. Mr. Sumner sent \$5 in good once the money for the inxets is sent to the embodiment of rascality, the "bourne" is reached whence no money ever returns. Mr. Summer sent \$5 in good faith, as he says; and C. R. Bowen & Bro. had such good faith in him that they kept his money for him, as all the Plaistow, Atkinson Dept., &c., agencies do when they receive any from a "flat."

The firm of C. R. Bowen & Bro., like all the agency

when they receive any from a "dat."

The firm of C. R. Bowen & Bro., like all the agency firms in this section, has merely a mythological existence. No such person as C. R. Bowen or that "dear and well-beloved" brother can be found at Atkinson Depot. The postmaster at that place and also in Plaistow and Haverhill is in collusion with the rascals, or at least is bound to know nothing about them when any inquiries are mac. Let any man who has been fleeced by them ask, either personally or by letter, for information from the postmaster, and the answer he would get would be somewhat like the following: "We know nothing of the firm you mention. Letters come here for them and are taken by some one whom we do not know." Sometimes, if a good fee is paid by the "firm," the information given is that they are perfectly reliable. In this manner the victim is fairly entrapped, and all his loose change will be gone before he discovers his mistake.

In conclusion, let me advise your readers to shun the New-Hampshire "Employment Agencies," and never be so devoid of brains as to risk even as much as the "stamp to pay return postage."

Hoping that this may enlighten your correspondent from Michigan and the public generally,

Tremain,

I remain, Sandows, N. H., Jan. 4, 1858.

A PARALLEL

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune Siz: In the year 32 Herod the Tetrarch ruled in Jerusalem, and we read thus:

But when Herod's birth-day was kept, the daughter But when Herod's birth-day was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them and pleased Herod. Whereupon he promised with an eath to give her whatsoever she would ask.

And she being before instructed of her mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger.

And he sent and beheaded John in the prison.

In the year 1857, Buchanan reigned in Washington, and we read so:

nd we read so: But when the day of Buchanan's election came, the ends of Wood voted for Buchanan, and pleased

And they asked for the head of John McKeon.

And he sent and beheaded John in the office. Times are as they used to be.

STUDY OUT OF SCHOOL.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribunc. Sin: The Report of the City Superintendent of Comnon Schools just submitted to the Board of Education contains some strictures on the excessive amount of application demanded of pupils in the schools, which claim equally the attention of the Board of Educa-tion, the teachers, the press and the public.

The City Superintendent is quite right in ng that the course of study needs careful revision. There is a great deal of latitude allowed to teachers by the present course of study in the manual. A great deal too anuch, indeed, as is shown by the very silly uses that some schools seem to make of their privilege. The efficiency of the Assistant Superisteudent has done a great deal to remedy this misused liberty, by limiting his examinations to the more important branches of a common school education, and thus compelling the schools which dealt in the fancy branches to bring in their scattered forces to work on a narrower base. Practically, then, the evil is not so great as the Superintendent would seem to publish, for, under the system of marking adopted by his department, they eacher whose work is to be tried by a careful examination, and graded in a way to affect his reputation, will, when his time is limited, be compelled by necessity to neglect the hearing of lessons which are not exential to the grade and character of the School.

There can be no doubt, however, that the course of study can and ought to be attence arranged on a clearly-defined basis. This would be fair to all parties. revision. There is a great deal of latitude

study can and ought to be atence erranged on a clearlydefined basis. This would be fair to all parties.

So much being allowed to the City Superintendent's
complaint, it does not appear to be quite so easy to
see what he desires to remedy in the matter of excessive study—and still less clear what remedies he propages. It is enstomary to assume that pupils are kept
at their full stretch for six hours in school—that is
from 9 s. m. till 3p. m. Theoretically, this is the
case. But, on looking more carefully into the management of the Schools, we find nearly one hour set apart
for recesses, and thirty-five minutes occupied by the
epening and closing exercises of the School. Indeed,
on eareful investigation, it will be found fair to assume
that one hour and a half is spent by the pupils each
day in mental or physical enjoyment—the very opposite of close application. We have, then, say, at
most four and a half hours a day left for the entire
instruction of the school-room. These four and a half
hours are further broken into by the hours set apart
on certain days during the week for practice in vocal
music, which, by most writers on education, is considfered to be a most soothing exercise for children, and
certuinly the very opposite of close application. In
many schools the time occupied is as much as two
hours per week. Then there are drawing an penmanehip—nearly mechanical exercises, not presing
very heavily on the brain, and considered very poisset interludes by the boys themselves. For these excroises set apart three bours per week. Adding these
three hours to the two above mentioned, we have five
hours per week, or an average of one hour a day, to
be deducted from the four and a half for class instruction, and there is no an an are further to be a five
they are further to succuse in the respective vocations. Such after function, editors who have learned statistics and
they fine and conting close the five fine interiors. If De Quincey's division of labor the fine interiors, who exhall have a s

for class recitation and instruction in every branch of common school education other than those mentioned. Now, it is a very simple matter to cry out against the way that pupils are pressed and crowded by study, and to charge upon the heartlessness and thoughtiess of teachers the ill-health and over-active brains of the rising generation. But, I say it deliberately, there is nothing in the internal management of a good public school—and there are many such—that can justify the complaint of ill-judged over-work in the school it-til. And I cannot help thinking that the examination we have just made shows that the opposite view is well founded.

Now, the question turns on a very simple point;

is well founded.

Now, the question turns on a very simple point; how are the three and a half hours, which we have found to be the amount of time left for really active recitation and class instruction, spent. It may safely found to be the amount of time left for really active recitation and class instruction, spent. It may safely be presumed that fifty pupils are a very small average for the usual size of classes in our public schools. If the class is to be kept in a healthy condition, it is necessary that the industry of each pupil should be carefully noted each day. If this be done, I know of no skill or experience that will enable any teacher to make thorough work with a recitation from fifty pupils in less than forty-five minutes on the average; and, I may add, it requires a tolerabily expert teacher to do this. If we divide the three hours and a half, or 210 minutes, by 45, the assumed length of each recitation, we have four and a half recitations. It must, then, be apparent to any one who will take the trouble to examine this, that there cannot be any arrangement for study in school. The whole theory and economy of our Public School system make this impossible. And if our City Superintendent, in addition to his well-meant censure on the present course of instruction, would only take the trouble to point out anything like a remedy for that which he censures, I can assure him that the remedy would be carefully considered by some of our most active teachers, who, from a careful study for years of the working of their classes day by day, with reference to this very point, have come to regard it as inherent in the system of Common School instruction of this city.

regard it as inherent in the system of Common School instruction of this city.

But is it wrong to require study at home? The City Superintendent seems to leave the impression that it is. If this be what he intended, will he tell us how or when the lessons are to be learned? If he only meant that there is too much study required at home, what remedy can he propose for the occasional carelessness of some teachers who give too long lessons, and who would continue to do so were there but two studies pursued at home in place of four?

My own experience—and it has been a tolerably long and extensive one—is that the Superintendent's statement of the serious pressure upon the pupils is much too sweeping and exaggerated, and that so far from it being true as a rule that the community consider their chil-

sweeping and exaggerated, and that so far from it being true as a rule that the community consider their chil-dren everworked in school and at home, the very re-verse is shown by the facts. For one complaint of overwork there are ten that the pupils seem to have little or nothing to do at home, and these complaints are accompanied by the wish that, if consistent with school arrangements, additional studies may be placed on them.

on them.

If the public say one thing to the teachers and another to the Superintendent, then that is another ques-tion. But till assured of this, it may well be forgiven the teachers if they he sitate to accede to the Superin-tendent's views, and ask a careful examination of the

BROOKLYN INSTITUTE. PROFESSOR BUNTINGTON'S FOURTH LECTURE ON

THE PRINCIPLES OF SOCIETY.

Sin: As the Trustees of the Institute seem determined to furnish for an audience, which would amount to at least 2,500, no other accommodation than the lecture room at the Institute, which will hold, as I judge, about one-fourth of that number. I presume there are many who could not get within hearing that will be chliged to me for a sketch of the discussion. Before, however, leaving the subject of complaint as to the place where these lectures are delivered, it may be proper to repeat what I stated in a notice of the second lecture, that there is nothing in the will of Mr. Graham making it nessary that these lictures should be delivered in the Institute building, and I am at a loss to conjecture why, when the expense is incurred of getting a ture why, when the expense is increased a lecturer of so much distinction, some more adequate provision should not be made to enable our citizens to provision should not be made to enable our citizens to hear him. I have heard a suggestion made, that the Church of the Pilgrims (Dr. Storrs's), or the Plymouth Church (Mr. Beecher's), should be substituted for the Institute lecture room. The objection as to the last is that Mr. Beecher himself preaches every Suaday evening to a larger ancitory than probably would be gathered to hear Professor Huntington, and as to the other, which is occupied but one evening in a mouth, perhaps there is some objection to allowing the use of the church to a minister of the Unitarian Denomina-tion, but I should suppose there would be no greater the church to a minister of the Children Dedomation; but I should suppose there would be no greater objection to the use of the church for these lectures than there was to Professor Huntagton's preaching in the church in the morning service some two Sab-

baths since.

It may be reasonably doubted whether the Trustees are carrying out the real design of the testator. It might well be inferred, from the provisions of the will, that his object was to furnish these lectures for the benefit of a class of persons who were not likely to get religious instruction otherwise. I do not know Mr. Graham's private history, but he seems to have Mr. Graham's private history, but he seems to have
that great consideration for the uneducated poor. He
may have supposed it would be of service to
them to be instructed in some elementary religious
principles, but the language of the will is precise in
guarding against anything that might be deemed theological in the ordinary sense of that term. If the class above referred to was had in view, it would probably be a proper discharge of the duty enjoined by the will if plain discourses, suited to minds but little versed in religious truth, had been provided, which could have been done without seeking clergymen of as much distinction as Professor Huntington and Dr. Norra.

and Dr. Storrs.

If, however, the trustees are right in obtaining a If, however, the trustees are right in obtaining a high order of talent for the service required, then the benefit of the increased expense ought to be provided for in some way more commensurate with the public interest in the lectures which has been clicited by the celebrity of the lecturer.

The subject of this lecture was "The Influence of

The subject of this lecture was "The influence of Society upon Intellectual Progress," The intellect has a twofold function, as receptant and producer, in each of which active energy is required. The acquisition of knowledge is not like pouring water into an sition of knowledge is not like pouring water into an empty vessel; there must be assimilation and incorpo-ration with the chyle and blood and fiber of the mental system in order to be made productive. There is no true value in knowledge except as communicated. We are liable to two errors: the one, if scholarship is rare, is idolatrons respect for the scholar; the other, if sci-ence be made popular, that we shall run into infidel

naterialism.

The latter topic might have been treated with ad-The latter topic might have been treated with advantage at greater length. In this country all acquisition of knowledge is measured by a utilitarian scale. Practical use is the test, and it is getting to be thought that value is what can be produced in money. This is what is called common sense, and it is brought to bear not merely upon scholastic knowledge, but upon things more sacred—upon ethical and religious principles, that constitute the life-blood of human society. I should have been glad to have heard this topic elucidated by the caustic satire in which Professor Huntington excels. He well remarked that a preacher has no audience so unimpressible by divine truth as a conington excess on impressible by divine truth as a con-gregation of educated thinkers. He of course did not mean scholars. We have, in fact, no such class in this country, except professors in literary institutions. He referred to men of practical sense—men having worldly wisdom and accustomed to think for themworldly wisdom and accustomed to think for them-selves. This is a large class. In fact, it embraces the far greater part of our countrymen—sufficiently concated for the conduct of business—shrewd, calcu-lating, sagacious. What impression does the expo-sition of religious doctrine one day in the week make more the minds of such men!

npon the minds of such men?

Especially is the remark above made applicable to those who are called self-made men. Having made their way in life by their own unaided efforts, they are apt to set little value upon anything but what they have found to contribute to success in their respective vocations. Such are lawyers without classical education, editors who have learned statistics and politics and nothing else, bank officers, brokers, and other financiers, who estimate all human powers and any mightles by dellars and conts.

not so menial and oppressive as that to which they are

new subject.

An interesting question involved in this mechanical An interesting question involved in this mechanical progression, was wholly passed over by the lecturer, viz: the relation of employer and employed in the rigantic workshops of England and other countries of Europe. Are the poor in a better condition for the acquisition of a competence or are they more dependent on the capitalist than formerly, and if so, what is the remedy to be looked to? Of course it could not be expected that the lecturer should go deeply into the details of a question in political economy; yet this is one that so vitally concerns the well-being of human society in its most developed state, that the discussion of the wisdom of God in the constitution of that society can hardly be considered complete without an attempt at the solution of the difficulty.

Passing over many other topics, I shall notice but one: Intellectual production is not measured by books.

Passing over many other topics, I shall notice but one: Intellectual production is not measured by books. In the confluence of human society there is daily more produced than as contained in any library in the world, and this production is in proportion to the advance of social refinement and freedom of intercourse. Genius is called forth by the honors which society is ready to bestow, and the character of that genius will be determined by public taste. A proud aristocracy, like that of Hootin or England, will be likely to have a Pindar or Sir Walter Scott. When the Athenians had displaced woman from her proper position in society, an Aristophanes arose to please the populace with his obscene scurrility; and so when a people shall be pleased with comic satire, a Menander or a Thackeray will not be wanting.

with come safe, a meanurer of a Thackeray with not be wanting.

I do not assent to the juxtaposition of the two last named. Mr. Thackeray, although not offensive in language, yet in his undiscriminating satire of all that the world has respect for, and especially his utter skepticism as to female virtue, deserves rather to be ranked with the irreverent Aristophanes than the

chaste Menander.

That great men are often called forth by great emergencies is undoubtedly true, but I do not think it can That great men are often calculated arth by great emires is undoubtedly true, but I do not think it can be proved that they appear only in what seem to us to be great crises. I am inclined to believe in the theory of Guizot, who held that great men produced great events rather than were produced by them. Charlemagne and Alfred were endowed as it for the very purpose of raking their respective nations from barbarism, though I believe they accomplished it by their heroism and grandeur of soul rather than by the study of Latin as is related of Alfred, or of Greek as it related of Charlemagne. But I doubt the tradition. If, as we have good authority for supposing, Charle magne could not write his name, he would not have been likely to study Greek in his old age.

It would take quite too much space were I to refer to all that was worthy of notice in this exceedingly rich discourse, and the lecturer will, I trust, not be displeased to know that it was enjoyed with discriminating zest by those who heard it, rather than undistinguishing admiration.

SPOTS ON THE SUN.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. Sir: I noticed in your last Saturday's issue a paragraph from The Charleston Courier, describing a large spot on the sun, seen on the 14th of December. A spot of nearly the same size was visible yesterday

(January 10), and from its position it may possibly be the same one observed by the correspondent of The Courier. As the sun makes its apparent axial revolution in about 271 days, the spot of December 14 has had just time to return to the same place in which it was first seen. The sun's disc on the afternoon of Sunday, January 10, viewed with a 34 feet achromatic Sunday, January 10, viewed with a 34 feet aericonatic telescope with a magnifying power of 120, appeared perfectly clear, except in the south-western quadrant, which was diversified by fifteen or twenty spots, mostly small, arranged in clusters, and, as usual, surrounded by oval-shaped penumbras. One of the spots, however, was unusually large, being about 30,000 miles in length, by 15,000 miles in breadth. It conrounded by oval-shaped penumbras. One of the spots, however, was unusually large, being about 30,000 miles in length, by 15,000 miles in breadth. It consisted of two triangular-shaped spots, joined together and encompassed by a penumbra, which was continued in a narrow crocked band toward the east, connecting itself with a small wedge-shaped spot about 40,000 miles reuts as a special control and presenting an appearance hot unlike the body, neck and head of a goose.

The penumbra surrounding the large spot resembled the edges of parted clouds, highly illuminated and

The penumbra surrounding the large spot resembled the edges of parted clouds, highly illuminated and rolled up by a violent wind. This appearance tends to corroborate the theory of Wilson and Herschel, that the body of the sun is a dark, opaque substance, and the spots mere openings in the surrounding lumi-Brocklyn, Jan. 11, 1857.

DISTILLERY STABLES, DISTILLERY MILK, AND DISTILLERY BEEF.

[From a Report of the Committee on Public Health to the Common Conneil of Brooklyn.]

'With regard to the cows that are kept, and the milk that is produced in these stables, we find that a distemper broke out in the swill stables near the South Ferry, about twelve years ago, and from them it spread through all the swill stables about New-York. At first, it was almost uniformly fatal. It was no announdenthing for a milkman to milk his cows in the morning, and on his return, find two or three dead. Cowmen thing for a milkman to milk his cows in the morning, and on his return, find two or three dead. Cows which took the disease lived from two hours to a menth, and were generally milked to the last. The disease still prevails to an alarming extent in the swill stables, and hears the same character. A cow that dies suddenly generally swells to twice her natural size. On opening it, the inwards are found highly inflamed, with all the signs of vegetable poison. These that lives longer have all the superance of consumption, with cough and fever. On opening them, the lungs will be found destroyed, except a part about as large as a man's hand. This swims in a mass of purulent matter.

In thatter.

This disease has prevailed for the last twelve years in these stables. Cows still die in them daily from it. The only remedy that has been found is to cut a slit. The only remedy that has been found is to cut a sut in the cow's tail and insert some of the matter from a dead cow's lungs. All fresh cows as they are introduced into these stables are so inoculated. The tail generally rots off, and about one cow in five dies. On removing the skin, the whole of the hind part of the body will be found, in many instances, to be mortified.

fied.

During the time the cows are under the influence of the inoculation they are milked with the others, and the milk sold. One milkman in these stables had twenty-five fresh cows inoculated at one time; and twenty-five fresh cows incentated at one time; and the milk from those cows, during the time they wate under the influence of the operation, was sold with the other milk.

This disease has never prevailed as an epidemic out

This disease has never prevailed as an epidemic out of the swill-stables about Now-York. Sometimes cows take the disease menths after they have passed through the inoculation. If they are in order, they are always sold immediately to the butcher, to be dressed for enting. Cows when first introduced into the stables are more liable to take the disease than those that have been accimated. For this reason, some milkmen attempted to keep their cows over, until they came in again, fiesh. This is now seidom attempted; for as the cows cease to give milk, they become more liable to die from the disease; or, in other words, the disease, instead of passing off in the milk, is drawn to the lungs and the cow dies. Milkmen disagree as to the cause of this disease. Some contend become more liable to de from the discase, of the calle, is drawn to the laugs and the cow dies. Milkmen disagree as to the cause of this disease. Some contend that it was imported from Europe, others that it arises from the new method of distilling, and that strycharm is used in the new method. In proof of it, they point to the cases where the cows swell up and die after an hour's sickness, with every appearance of being poisoned, and to the fact that it is but very seldom that any other than swill-sed animals, kept in distillery stables, suffer from it. The more intelligent, however, have become satisfied that there are two diseases. One is the effect of the poison in the swill. In these cases the cow dies in two or three hours. The other, the lingering disease is similar to concumption, which first brooke out as an epidemic in the most crowded and fifthy stables about the city, and untion, which first broke out as an epidemic in the most crowded and filthy stables about the city, and un-deubtedly proceeded from the state of the stables and the mode of feeding.

If we examine the stables and the manner in which

If we examine the stables and the manner in which they are managed, it would seem almost a miracle that cows can live twenty-four hours in them. Some of these stables are built to hold hundreds of cows. Each ow is confined to a space three feet in width by cleven feet in length. The cows are fied in the stables when they are first purchased, and kept there until they die or are sold to the butcher. They are fed three or four times a day with boiling swill, which retnains steaming under their heads until it becomes sufficiently cooled for them to drink. In the Summer, they are the whole time in a vapor bath, breathing the fetid air that has been breathed over and over again, their tongues hanging out, while they pant for breath. In the Winter, every crevice is stapped to prevent the cold from cutering they pant for breath. In the Winter, every crevice is stapped to prevent the cold from entering frest never enters these subject in the coldest weather). The cows are stoomed and simulated up to the highest milking degree. Is it strange that lung disease prevails? and is it my winder that their imags become affected, and that they die at once when they dry up and the milk ceases to carry off the posobous secretions, which the lungs cannot know off from want of fresh air?

A large per ceatage of the naimals removed from the city by the offal contractor, is made up of low which have died from these diseases. This transportation is a sickening sight and a missace to the city. During the Winter wentles, a large per centage of the

Winter worths, a large per centure of the animals killed for beef in the city are laboring under this disease, as is proved by the large number of dis-eased lungs brought to the offel contractor to be removed from the city. It is believed that, at some establishments, few except diseased an universely of. PERRONAL.

- Ex-President Fillmore, according to The New-York

Observer, says of his personal habits:

"I owe my uninterrupted bodily vigor to an originally strong constitution, to an education on a farm, and to life-long habits of regularity and temperance. Throughout all my public life I maintained the same regular and systematic habits of living to which I had previously been accustomed. I never allowed my usual hours for sleep to be interrupted. The Sabbath I always kept as a day of rest. Beside being a religious duty, it was essential to health. On commencing my Presidential career, I found that the Sabbath had frequently been employed by visitors for private interviews with the President. I determined to put an end to this custom, and ordered my door keeper to meet all Sunday visitors with an indiscriminate refusal. While Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means in Congress, and during my entire Presidential term, my labors were always onerous, and often ex-Observer, says of his personal habits: term, my lahors were always onerous, and often ex-cessive, but I never suffered an hour of sickness through them all."

-Mr. Wright, our new Envoy at Berlin, has distinguished himself by his temperance principles. At a déjouner à la fourchette, which he gave recently in honor of Alexander von Humboldt, to which all the Americans resident in Berlin were invited, hominy and other preparations of Indian corn were provided, but

-Mr. Reuben Mellen, whose unaccountable disap--Mr. Reuben Meden, whose pearance from Chicago some time since caused a great deal of search and speculation, returned the other day, having been to New-Orleans and California, at which latter place he was engaged in preaching. In the mean time Mrs. Mellen, having no doubt of his

which latter place he was engaged in precausary the mean time Mrs. Mellen, having no doubt of his death, had married a printer.

—A London periodical states that nearly all the English clergymen living between 200 and 300 years ago wore the mustache. In his list of those who were the heard on the upper lip, we find the well-known names of John Donne, George Herbert, Robt. Herrick, Jeremy Taylor, Thomas Faller, and Robert South. The famous John Knox and the celebrated John Bunyan wore the mustacher, also Wickliffe, Cardinal Pole, Archbishop Cranmer, Bishops Ridley, Latimer, Jewel, Holbech, Thiridey, Geodrich, Skip, Day, Archbishop Laud, and a hos: of others.

—A tablet to the memory of Emanuel Swedenborg was erected on the 8th of December in the Swedish Protestant Church, Princes square, Ratcliffe Highway, in which he was buried cighty-five years ago.

—The Jerrold "In memorium money—the noblest tribute of respect raised by authors to a brother author—is sufficient to secure an annaity of \$600 a year for Mrs. Jerrold and her unmarried daugter, and the survivor of the two.

survivor of the two.

-An incorrect statement appeared some —An incorrect statement appeared some time ago, says a London paper, to the effect that Miss Nightingale had arrived in Vienna, and that she intended to examine the arrangements of the Austrian military hospitals. Since her return from the East Miss Nightingale has not left England, and we regret to hear that her health still continues much impaired by het exertions on behalf of our sick and wounded soldiers during the late war.

BOYS AND GIRLS AT SCHOOL.—The Boston folks are beginning to discover that sending boys and girls to the same school, as their ancestors did, is not quite so stupid a thing as some of the advocates of "separate schools have represented. The good old plan is gaining friends, as it should do, rapidly. The sexes Lever should be educated apart.

AMERICANS IN PARIS. The following is a list of Americans registered at the Banking Office of the American European Express & Exchange Co., Paris,

American European Express & Exchange Co., Paris, from Dec. 19 to Dec. 24, 1857;

The Rev. Dr. Patron, Miss E. Patton, C. M. Therstee, A. Van Bergen, M. B. Merriman, R. F., Sanderveer, W. H. Heyderster, B. Day, E. E. Balcour, T. W. Folke and wife, L. M. Sheldon, Otto Von Hein, F. H. Head, A. W. Painer, B. Fitch, C. M. Wilsey, S. Whitney, S. F. Dewey and danily, N. Y. H. Richards, C. W. Marting and Martin Companies, Paris, Dr. W. H. Reinher, H. S. Dexter and family, Cal., B. G. Farror and family, N. M., H. Gibson, La. (C. M. Eustis, G. F. Adams, Mass.) Dr. N. Miller, R. L.; B. A. Jamison, D. C.

BRIDERY AND SWINDLING .- A Washington corre

BRIBERT AND SWISDLING.—A Washington correspondent of The Herald snys:

Mr. Zollicoffer of Tennessee had a resolution prepared, which he intended to offer to-day, to appoint a Committee to investigate and inquire into the \$87,000 transaction of Lawrence, Stone & Co. I understand this evening that a letter has been addressed to Lawrence, Stone & Co., signed by a large number of Members of Stone & Co., signed by a large number of Members of the state. Congress, calling upon those gentlemen to state whether or not that money was used in Congress, and if so, who received it. If they do not give some account of the matter, they will doubtless be subpensed to appear before an Investigating Committee of the

House.

Several Members of Congress who had been summoned appeared before the Grand Jury in connection with the charge of trand against the late Clerk of the House, but they pleaded their exemption and were excused without testifying.

MAYOR WOOD AFROND.—Our late Mayor, who gracefully re-strated the staff of edice on New-Year's day, is, with his family, wheat to depart upon an extended tour through Europe and Asia, victing the principal Goutmental cities, Greece and Turkey, said passing through Syria to the Holy Land. Mr. Wood will have an ample opportunity to study the various forms of municipal gov-ernment in the great European cities, and to verify his own theory, that it is our system alone that is to be blamed for the miscrite of New-York Herald. If Mr. Wood's explorations should carry him so lar that he never got back to this country; if his studies into the municipal affairs of European cities should absorb the entire remaining years of his life; or even it he should be lost in a heavy gale somewhere at sea, it is not likely the City of New-York would go into heavy mourning. While pursuing his investigations in the Old World, he will doubtless notice many heavy mourning. White pursuing his investigations in the Old World, he will doubtless notice many instances of demazogues suddenly coming to the end of their rope, and thieves achieving their destiny the same way, though in a different sease. Let him make these characters subjects of study, and his own experience in the arts will quality him to write an extraordinary and instructive book, for which a good title would be, "Prominent Scoundrels of the Old World. By a Dead Rabbit." [Phila. North Amern.

BEAUTY OF SLAVERY AND SLAVE HUNTERS .- A BEAUTY OF SLAVERY AND SLAVE HUNTERS.—A few weeks ago, three negroes—some dark, some brown—were wending their way, whence we knew not: but, on arriving at Nemaha City, on their way northward, where they received their breakfasts, and informed our citizens that they were traveling up the Missouri River, and intended to cross as soon as "the land of freedom" made its appearance on the opposite side—being overheard in these ansophisticated declarations, they were suspected of being slaves. This suspicion being communicated to some of the citizens of Brownsville, five miles distant, was sufficient to arouse the chivalry and Pro-Slavery proclivities of a certain portion of the citizens there. In a short time many knights were well equipped, sitting upon their horses and—mules, gallantly rallying the people, in the name of the United States by virtue of the "Fagitive Slave law," and in the name of the Territory of the name of the United States by virtue of the "Fa-gitive Slave law," and in the name of the Territory of Nebraska, by virtue of its discriminating laws as be-tween negroes, mulattees, and those negroes who have white faces; and finally, the recruits were sufficiently formidable to give the requisite courage to the chiv-alrous projectors of the landable attack; and at it, pell-mell, with a hurrah, the "valiant sons of free-

pell-mell, with a harran, the men' went.

Shquel...—One nigger was shot through the right arm by two white men, and captured, because he could not swim the Missouri River. The other two negrees shot Wm. Myors, and having killed him, and finding themselves surrounded, without the hope of escape except by an extraordinary movement, unhitched, mounted, and rode off two of the enemy's horses. Neither the horses, nor the negroes have been recovered.

The wounded negro was detained in jail in Nemaha

County, at an expense of about \$300, until our recent November term of the District Court, when, upon affidavit, his trial was transferred to Otoe County; and there, about a week ago, the poor negro with one arm was returned to his master without a trial. (Nemaha City (N. T.) Journal.

DEFFEST WELL IN THE WORLD .- The Louisville Ky.) Courier says that the artesian well of the Messrs. Dupont, of that city, has now reached the depth of

Depont, of that city, has now reached the depth of 1,900 feet. It adds:

"This is the deepest well now known to us in the world. The next in depth is the well at Grenelle, near Paris, which is 1,300 feet. Louisville has, therefore, the deepest well in the world and the tallest steepe in the United States, the cross on the St. Louis Cathedral being 286 feet high, while the snmmit of Trinity, New-York, is only 264 feet." THE SMALL-Pox. - This disease prevails in Somerset

County, Md., and The Princess Anne Patriot says: In Salisbury a number of cases have occurred, and In Salisbury a number of cases have occurred, and doubtless there will be others. We learn that the merchants there, with some exceptions, have closed doors, business of all kinds being very generally suspended, all aweiting with fearful auxiety an abatement of the disease. A number of cases have occurred in Barren Creek District, of which we may mention 1 ar. Visshington Mitchell's family; also, Mr. Levin Ayres—himself, wie and three children all being down with it. Mr. Dougherty, a nautical man, who introduced the contagion into the latter family, has since lied.

FARM BUILDINGS-THE CHEAPEST BARN.-AL & Farmers Club lately held in West Springfield, Mass., after consultation and debate,

"It was decided that a large barn was better than two or more small ones; that a tight barn was better, even for badly-cured hay, than an open one; that a brick barn and a state roof were the best and cheapest for a man who has all his materials to buy, that a good connection between a house and barn is a covered walk, overhung with grape-vines; that economy of roof and convenience for work were of the first amount of any building; that warm water and warm stables were essential to the comfort of animals; that the housing of manures was judicious; that liquid manures are largely lost, even by those who have cellars and sheds for storing them; and that the best ab-"It was decided that a large barn was better than two handres are largely lost, even by those who have cel-lars and sheels for storing them; and that the best ab-sorbents of liquid manure are backwheat halls, leaf mold, sawdust, fine sand, dried peat, turf and straw." A Yanker Dianer.—The meeting was held at the

house of one of the members—an oil-fashioned twostery building-with modern furniture and fixtures. where the well-spread tables were bountifully loaded with fat chickens, mealy potatoes, light bread, yellow butter, melting cheese, with pies and cake to match, were lavishly bestowed, and such conversation ensue as would, if it could be imitated in every neighborhood, prove of great benefit to the people. Let the plan be

Mr. J. A. Harris, who has been the editor and proprieter of The Cleveland Herald for more than twenty years, has retired from that paper. Mr. Harris succeeded in making The Herald a valuable and reliable paper, and was, indeed, a model editor. Mr. Geo. A. Benedict, who has been an associate editor for the last five years, takes the "chair editorial."

Cel. Williams of Tennessee declines the mission to Constantinople, and it is said that Mr. Poindexter, recently appointed Chief Clerk in the Post-Office Department, will receive the appointment.

The St. Cloud Visitor is the name of a sprightly

weekly newspaper published at St. Cloud, Stearns County, Minnesota, by J. Mowatt, and edited by Mrs. Jane G. Swisshelm, formerly of The Pittsburgh Sat urday Visitor. Buttat Munder .- The Clarksville Tobacco Plant

(Va.) gives the following particulars of a recent mur-der at Scottsburg, a station on the Richmond and Danville Railroad, in Halifax County, Va.: Danville Railroad, is Halifax County, Va.:

"A man by the name of Tuck was bearing the son of a man named Ashby. Ashby interfered, and demanded that Tuck should desist. Tuck inquired if he took up the quarrel. Ashby responded, without manifesting any purpose of violence, that if a man could not protect his own offspring, he did not know what right he had. Thereupon Tuck seized Ashby, and struck him several blows. He then held him by the collar at arm's length with his left hand, with his right took his banie from his pocket, opened a with his teeth, and cut Ashby to the heart. Tuck then exceaped, and is still at large."

AN EXPENSIVE THEATRICAL COMPLEMENT .- The Paris correspondent of The New-Orleans Picagune relates the following anecdote:

relates the following anecdote:

"They have an opera in Athens where a prima doma is very popular. One night she so bewitched the audience, the men took the spiendid pair of Eaglish bleeded horses from the carrage and dragged her home. She was delighted until the next morning, when she ordered the coachman to drive her out. The coachman said that some of the gentlemen of the preceding evening had been carried away so far by their enthusiasm as not to have had time to return with the horses. The day passed away, and nothing was heard of the horses. The second day she had the walls of Athens covered with bills offering \$500 reward for the recovery of her horses, but as they were worth at least \$2,000, they have not yet and probably never will be heard of."

ATCHAFALAYA CURRENCY.-Captain Shalleross, of ATCHAYLCHAY CURRENCY.—Captara Sanahosos, the Mississippi steamer Peytona, is one of the crack captains of the river. Everybody knows him, and he knows everybody, and therefore we must tell a little story about him. One day the Peytona was steaming down past the cotton woods, toward New-Orleans, when she was hailed by another boat coming up.

"Hallo! Captain Shall!"

Hallo!" was the answer. " Got any Atchafalaya money ?"

"Yes, plenty."
"Well, pay it out; the bank's busted, or a gwine Ay, ay," said Captain Shalleross. "Clerk, have

"Ay, ay," said Captain Shalleross. "Clerk, have you got much of that money!"
"About a thousand dolfars, I reckon, sir," said the clerk of the Peytona.
"Well, stop at the first wood boat." And the Peytona puffed on until a wood boat was seen moored to the shore, with piles of cord-wood around, and a small man, with his trowers rolled up, and his hands in his pockets, shivering on the bank beside his boat, in the chill becember weather.
"Wood boat aloy!" sang out Captain Shall.
Small man in the distance: "Hallo:"
"Want to sell that wood?"
Small man in the distance: "Yas."
"Take Atchafalaya money?"
Small man in the distance: "Yas."

Small man in the distance." " Yes."

Small man in the distance: "Yas."

"Round to, pilot," said Captain Shall. The boats bound down stream always have to come around, with their bows pointed up stream, to resist the current of the Mississippi; sometimes they encounter a big eddy, and have to take a sweep of some miles before they reach the landing place. So it was in this instance. "So you'll take Atchafalaya money for wood, will you" said the captain, as the boat approached shore. "Yas." said the small man.

you!" said the captain, as the boat approached shore.

"Yas," said the small man.

"How will you take it?" said Captain Shell, (meaning at what rate.)

"Take it even," said the small man.

"What do you mean by even?"

"Cord for cord, Captain."

"Put her round again, pilot, said Captain Shell, and wood up at the next wharf boat; I reckon this fellow has been posted by somebody on Atchafalaya."

MR. DOUGLAS AND HIS SOUTHERN PLANTATION .-The Vicksburg Southron sava:

As some explanation of the unexpected change in the action of Mr. Douglas, we may state that several menths since the Illinois Senator disposed of his estate in Mississippi, and having no longer any tangular theorets in the "peculiar institution," we presume he thought the occasion a good one to conciliate the Free-Soil fanatics of the North and North-West.

LLOYD'S AGENT AT MONROVIA. - We have received LLOYD'S AGENT AT MONROVIA.—We have received information that Mr. Ex-President Roberts has been appointed agent for Lloyd's at Monrovia. The object of this appointment is to facilitate British trade with the Republic of Liberia and the interior of Africa. While the far-seeing eyes of English statesmen perceive the value of the connection, and their vigorous minds are prompt in arranging to extend a profitable commerce among the new African coloriss, there is no indication that our Government will take advantage of its decided pre-emigence for securing this traffic. Congress and the country have been importanted by the friends of colonization for an acknowledgment of the independence of Liberia, the appointment of consuls, and the establishment of a line of ceean steamers, but without success. A proposition ceean steamers, but without success. A proposition was made during the last session, in the Senate, to appropriate \$25,000 for an exploration of the River Riger, but even this failed to be carried into effect. Niger, but even this tailed to be carried into effect. The adoption and hearty execution of these measures would greatly help to suppress the slave-trade and to increase our material interests. We hope that no time or pains will be spared to obtain such Government action as will comport with an enlightened pol-icy and a truly Christian spirit. [Phile. North Am.

SEWARD AMONG THE VIRGISIA NEGROES .- The Hon S. WARD ANONG THE VIRGISIA N. GRODE,—The Hon. H. Neward of New York, at the invitation of the Hon. John S. Pendicton, paid that gentleman a visit, a few days since, the object of which was to witness a regular old-fishioned Virginis "Nieger" corns-back-ing, Mr. Pendicton being desirons that Seward, from what he would see there, would be conviced that Slavery in Culpepper was not as bad as represented by the Anti-Slavery men of the North. The frolic presed off very pleasantly indeed, and no one was more delighted than the New-York Senator.

[Warenton (Va.) Whig.

HAIR DROPPING OFF .- Within the last six week HAIR DROPPING OFF.—Within the last six weeks several persons, some of whom are among our acquaintages, have, without my known cause, lost all the hair from the head and bedy. Within two weeks from the time the hair commenced coming out, not a spire was left. The evebrows and evelashes also drepped out. Neither of the persons had suffered from recent sickness, nor had used hair dyes, nor taken any medicines. They have applied to several emment physicians, but can learn he cause for the singular circumstance. [Bristol (R. I.) Phents.

FATAL APPAY.—We are informed that on Wednesday has, an affray occurred between Mr. Richardson of this city. Mr. Spears and Jus. Meaver, at the form of Weaver, withe, which is situated at the back of New-Madrid, Mo. The fight resulted in the death of Weaver and Spears. The cause of the difficulty our informant did not learn. Memphis Appeal.